BENEFITS TO THE PASSENGERS OF VAYUDOOT AND IA

3083. SYED SIBTEY RAZI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Questions No. 921 and 927 given in Rajya Sabha on the 9th December, 1993 and state :

(a) whether the passengers of Vayudoot and Indian Airlines will be benefitted by the merger of Vayudoot and Indian Airlines in any way; and

(b) if so, details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The resources and expertise available with the two airlines will be integrated and utilised more optimally leading to better operation of air services by them.

ORGANISATION OF GRAND WINTER CARNIVAL IN DELHI

3084. SYED SIBTEY RAZI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Delhi Tourism and Transportation Development Corporation with a view to promote tourism activity in Delhi has organised some Grand Winter Carnival in some parts of Delhi in the recent past;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to ask Tourism Transportation Development Corporations of States and Union Territories to organise such activities in their respective areas also; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not; the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A week long Tourism Festival was organised by Delhi Tourism and Transportation Development Corporation from 6th December to 12th December 1993. The main events organised were folk music and dances, food festivals, kite flying, music concerts, Chrysanthemum show etc.

(c) and (d) The State Tourism Departments and Tourism Development Corporations organise such festivals from time to time. The Central Department of Tourism extends financial assistance for publicity items and construction of semi permanent stage for identified fairs and festivals only.

INDIRA GANDHI BOAT RACE OT COCHIN

3085. SYED SIBTEY RAZI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indira Gandhi Boat Race has been organised at Cochin, Kerala in the recent past;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this event was presided over by a personality of National Level;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Government propose to organise similar events to be presided over by a similar National level personality in future; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Indira Gandhi Boat Race was organised by the District Tourism Promotion Council, Ernakulam, in the memory of the late Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi. This Boat Race was first organised in 1986 at Cochin. From 1991 it is being organised regularly.

(c) to (f) in 1986 the then Prime Minister Late Shri Rajiv Gandhi inaugu-

rated the Boat Race. It is the District Tourism Promotion Council Ernakulam which decides which personality should be invited to inaugurate and preside over the event.

SCHEME OF GIVING DISCOUNT TO INCOMING PASSENGERS ON ROOM RENT IN ITDC HOTELS

3086. SYED SIBTEY RAZI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Airlines have introduced any scheme of giving discount to its incoming passengers on room rent in all the I.T.D.C. hotels ;

(b) if so, the details thereof with its date of effectiveness ;

(c) whether the Indian Airlines have also introduced some more schemes ensuring return of passengers to their place of origin from Bombay, Madras, Ahmedabad and Delhi ;

(d) if so, the details thereof ;

(e) whether the Indian Airlines propose to introduce similar service for other towns of the country; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b) Indian Airlines and Indian Tourism Development Corporation (ITDC) have jointly introduced a scheme of giving 15% discount on room rent in ITDC hotels on production of Indian Airlines boarding card of same day flight.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) and (f) This is applicable in all hotels of ITDC in any place in India.

LOSSES IN ITDC HOTELS

3087. SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state ;

(a) the number of the ITDC run hotels which are running into losses during the last two years, year-wise; the details of the losses incurred so far ;

(b) what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to improve the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) While sixteen hotels of ITDC incurred a loss of Rs. 772 lakhs in the year 1991-92, fifteen hotels incurred a loss of Rs. 516.09 lakhs in 1992-93.

(b) The performance of ITDC hotels got affected due to a number of factors such as; law and order problem in some parts of the country, strikes in Air India and Indian Airlines, recession in economies of America and European countries, hike in air fares etc.

(c) Steps being envisaged by ITDC to further improve occupancy and performance of the hotels include aggressive marketing efforts, modernisation/renovation of hotels, introduction of special off-season packages, improvement of the product and quality of services leading to customer statisfaction, development of human resource by imparting training at all levels, operational cost reduction, etc.

OCCUPANCY OF ROOMS IN ITDC HOTELS

3088. DR. SANJAY SINGH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the average occupancy of room in ITDC Hotels, in Delhi and Bombay during the last three years; year-wise and in each Hotel ;

(b) whether it has declined and if so, the reasons therefor; and